

VISIT OF GREEK PRIME MINISTER

The Greek Prime Minister, Mr. Constantine Karamanlis, will have talks and a working lunch with Mrs. Thatcher tomorrow, Wednesday, 24 October beginning at noon. Mr. Karamanlis arrives in Britain today and departs for Italy on 25 October. He was last in London in January 1978 and immediately before coming to London this time he has paid official visits to Moscow, Budapest and Prague and has also had talks with Chancellor Schmidt and President Giscard.

Subjects for Discussion

Mr. Karamanlis' talks with Mrs. Thatcher will consist of a general tour d'horizon on a variety of subjects including EEC and bilateral matters. If asked, we can confirm that the two Heads of Government are also likely to touch on subjects such as Cyprus and the question of Greece's membership of NATO.

Those attending the working lunch are shown at Annex A.

BackgroundEEC

Greece signed the EEC Treaty of Accession in Athens in May (Lord Carrington attended). Ratification by Member States is necessary before Greece formally joins the EEC on 1 January, 1981. The European Communities (Enlargement) Bill dealing with Greece's membership of the Community is being tabled this week. HMG has, of course, supported Greece's application for membership of the Community.

Greece and NATO

Greece withdrew from the military structure of NATO in 1974 following Turkey's invasion of Cyprus. She applied in 1978 for re-integration on terms which we and all the allies except Turkey agreed (but we should avoid going into this in any detail with correspondents).

Bilateral Matters

Discussion under this item will include the prospects for British firms to secure important defence and civil contracts, although again it would be better not to be drawn on this in discussion with correspondents.

C.A.

CVA

GUEST LIST FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S LUNCH FOR THE  
GREEK PRIME MINISTER ON 24 OCTOBER 1979 IN THE SMALL  
DINING ROOM AT 10 DOWNING STREET AT 1.00 FOR 1.15 P.M.

---

The Prime Minister	
Mr. Thatcher	
His Excellency Mr. Constantine Karamanlis	Prime Minister of Greece
His Excellency Mr. E. Lagacos	Greek Ambassador
His Excellency Mr. P. Molyviatis	Head of the Greek Prime Minister's Office
The Rt. Hon. Lord Carrington KCMG MP	Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Soames GCMG	Lord President of the Council
The Rt. Hon. John Nott, MP	Secretary of State for Trade
Sir Michael Palliser, GCMG	Permanent Under-Secretary, FCO
Mr. J. L. Bullard, CMG	Deputy Under-Secretary, FCO
Mr. D. M. Elliott	Under Secretary, European Secretariat, Cabinet Office
Mr. Michael Alexander	Private Secretary

Peter Ewing

Please give names to Andy Tel. Secret Page

in a.m. 24/10/79.

CA

23/10